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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

TETSUO OZAWA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: SQUARYLIUM COMPOUNDS, FILTERS FOR PLASMA DISPLAY PANELS EMPLOYING THEM, AND PLASMA DISPLAY PANEL DEVICES :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

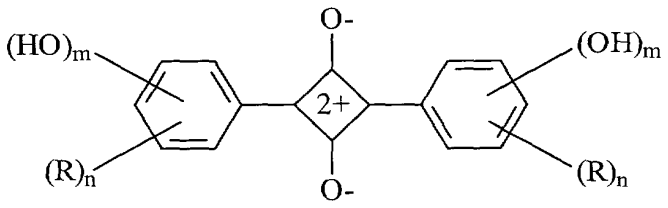
SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-16 without prejudice and insert therefor the following new claims:

17. (New) A squarylium compound having the formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R is halogen, alkyl which is optionally substituted, alkoxy which is optionally substituted, or alkenyl which is optionally substituted; m is an integer of from 1 to 4; and n is an integer of from 1 to 4.

18. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein R is alkyl which is optionally substituted.

19. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein m is 3.

20. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein n is 1.

21. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein R is halogen selected from the group consisting of chlorine, bromine and fluorine atoms.

22. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein R is C_{1-20} linear or branched alkyl which is optionally substituted.

23. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein R is C_{1-20} linear or branched alkoxy which is optionally substituted.

24. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein R is alkenyl which is optionally substituted.

25. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 22, wherein R is C_{1-6} linear or branched alkyl which is substituted by hydroxyl or alkoxycarbonyl.

26. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 23, wherein R is C_{1-6} alkoxy.

27. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 24, wherein R is ethenyl which is optionally substituted.

28. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein m is 3, n is 1 and R is alkyl which is optionally substituted.

29. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, wherein m is 2, n is 1 and R is alkyl or alkoxy which is optionally substituted.

30. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 28, wherein R is $-CH_3$.

31. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 28, wherein R is $n\text{-}C_3H_7$.

32. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 29, wherein R is alkyl selected from the group consisting of $-CH_3$, $-C_2H_5$ and $-n\text{-}C_6H_{13}$.

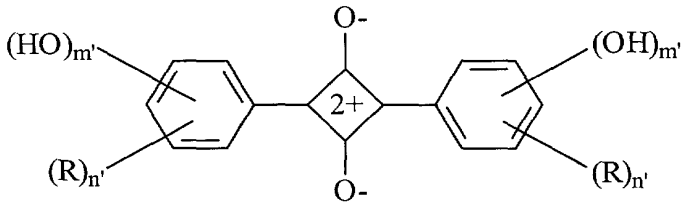
33. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 29, wherein R is $-OCH_3$ or $n\text{-}OC_4H_9$.

34. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 17, having an absorption maximum in a range of about 580 to 600 nm.

35. (New) The squarylium compound of Claim 28, wherein R is $-C_5H_{11}$, $-n\text{-}C_4H_9$, $-CH_2C(CH_3)_3$, $-CH_2C_6H_5$, or $-CH_2CH(C_2H_5)C_5H_{11}$.

36. (New) A filter for a plasma display panel, comprising a layer which contains one or more squarylium compounds of Claim 17.

37. (New) A filter for a plasma display panel, comprising a layer containing an ultraviolet absorber laminated on a layer containing one or more squarylium compounds of the formula (I'):



(I')

wherein:

R is halogen, alkyl which is optionally substituted, alkoxy which is optionally substituted, or alkenyl which is optionally substituted; m' is an integer of from 1 to 4; and n' is an integer of from 0 to 4.

38. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, wherein for at least one of the squarylium compounds n'=0.

39. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, wherein for at least one of the squarylium compounds n'=0, and m'=2 or 3.

40. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, wherein R is an alkyl group which is optionally substituted.

41. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, wherein m'=3, and n'=1.

42. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, having a visible light transmittance is at least 40%.

43. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, which further comprises a near infrared screening layer.

44. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, which further comprises an electromagnetic wave screening layer.

45. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, which further comprises an antireflection layer.

46. (New) The filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 36, which further comprises a glare-preventing (non-glare) layer.

47. (New) A plasma display panel device, comprising the filter for a plasma display panel of Claim 37, on a screen of a plasma display panel.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 have been canceled. New Claims 17-47 have been added and are now active in this case.

All of the above amendments are fully supported by the claims and disclosure as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, it is believed that this application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

Claims 17-47 (New).